Amendments to the Claims

The Listing of Claims below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. through 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein said interface system processes requested stock option and purchase transactions to be conducted on one of a cash, cashless and stock swap basis.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the finance system further includes a confirmation system connected for confirming execution of stock option and stock purchase contracts by the trading system.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the communication system is selected from the group consisting of Internet, an interactive voice response system and an Intranet.

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein distribution proceeds from a transaction are selected from the group consisting of transfer to participant account, wire, check, and payment through an employee payroll system.

10. through 33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously presented) A system for inquiry and processing of trades made pursuant

to a trading plan including at least one of a stock option plan and a stock purchase plan, the system comprising:

a finance system for automatic processing of a transaction pursuant to at least one of the stock option plan and the stock purchase plan; and

a communication system connected to the finance system for enabling a participant of the trading plan to input transaction information regarding a requested transaction in accordance with the trading plan,

wherein the finance system includes:

a volatile data storage for storing participant information, specific to the participant, pursuant to a data transfer from a nonvolatile database of a remote third party administration system;

a first connection for accessing a quote server that provides real-time stock market quotes to the finance system;

a monitoring system for ensuring proper function of the quote server by preventing inaccurate quotes from being provided to the participant;

an interface system, connected to receive the participant information from the volatile data storage and quotes from the quote server in accordance with the monitoring system, for processing the requested transaction in accordance with the participant information; and

a second connection to a trading system for conducting the processed requested transaction on a public exchange.

35. (Previously presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the monitoring system makes a detection of when the connection for accessing the quote system fails to receive a quote for a predetermined amount of time, and determines whether a quote from the quote system is accurate or inaccurate in accordance with the detection.

36. (Previously presented) The system of claim 35, wherein the predetermined amount of time is predetermined in accordance with dictates of the trading plan.

37. (Previously presented) A method for automatically processing transactions made pursuant to a trading plan including at least one of a stock option plan and a stock purchase plan,

the method comprising the steps of:

inputting, to a volatile data storage of a finance system, participant information from a nonvolatile database of a remote third party administration system, the participant information being specific to a participant of the trading plan;

inputting, via a communication system accessible by the participant, transaction information regarding a requested transaction in accordance with the trading plan;

inputting to the finance system, from a quote server, real-time stock market quotes;

monitoring the quote server for ensuring proper function of the quote server by preventing inaccurate quotes from being transmitted to the participant;

inputting, to an interface system of the finance system, the participant information from the volatile data storage and quotes in accordance with the monitoring step;

processing, by the interface system, the requested transaction in accordance with participant information; and

conducting, via a trading system connected to the finance system, the processed requested transaction on a public exchange.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the monitoring step makes a detection of when the connection for accessing the quote system fails to receive a quote for a predetermined amount of time, and determines whether a quote from the quote system is accurate or inaccurate in accordance with the detection.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the predetermined amount of time is predetermined in accordance with dictates of the trading plan.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, further comprising transmitting updateable transaction information to the nonvolatile database of the administration system.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the processing step processes requested stock option and purchase transactions to be conducted on one of a cash, cashless and stock swap basis.

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, further including the step of confirming, by a confirmation system connected to the finance system, execution of stock option and stock purchase contracts by the trading system.

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the communication system is selected from the group consisting of Internet, an interactive voice response system and an Intranet.

44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 37, wherein distribution proceeds from a transaction are selected from the group consisting of transfer to participant account, wire, check, and payment through an employee payroll system.